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appearance for the benefit of the court reporter's record, please.

MR. HOWARD: Yes. Your Honor, my name is Tim Howard, Special Assistant Attorney General with the Attorney General's office.

THE COURT: All right, Mr. Howard.

MR. HOWARD: Just for a brief basis of why the subpoena was issued, the Attorney General received information from confidential informants that engineering reports had been altered at the request of State Farm and that basically State Farm had twisted the arms of some of the engineers who had done engineering reports involving assessment on reported damage of Hurricane Katrina to residences, had twisted the arms of some engineering firms in order to get them to change their engineering reports, and that these engineering reports would be located in an office in Biloxi, and because of that some of the claims were denied based upon the fraudulent engineering reports that State Farm wanted the engineers to submit and

twisted their arms to do.

So therefore, we had a grand jury subpoena issued in order to gather the engineering reports to look at those reports, specifically those ones in which there is more than one report on a particular piece of property.

THE COURT: Mr. Howard, under what authority of the Attorney General's office of the Mississippi code is the Attorney General proceeding through the Harrison County grand jury?

MR. HOWARD: Your Honor, the office in which these engineering reports are going through is the office in Biloxi, and those residences are also within this particular district.

THE COURT: I understand with respect to venue, but under the jurisdictional authority of the Harrison County grand jury to pursue this matter through the Attorney General's office. Apparently, Mr. Caranna, you want to speak to that?

MR. CARANNA: Yes, sir. Your Honor, when made notice, given notice of the fact

COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

3 | STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

4 | COUNTY OF HARRISON

I, Angelle T. Webb, Official Court Reporter for the Second Circuit Court District of the State of Mississippi, do hereby certify that the foregoing 61 pages constitute, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of my stenographic notes and electronic tape recording of the hearing had on March 28, 2006, before the Honorable Stephen B. Simpson, Circuit Court Judge of the Second Circuit Court District of the State of Mississippi, being a regular day in the March Term of Harrison County Circuit Court at Gulfport.

Witness my signature this, the 7th day of April, 2006.

ANGELLE T. WEBB, RPR, CSR, (#1306)
Official Court Reporter

ANGELLE WEBB, RPR, CSR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER